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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend W. Douglas Tanner, Jr., President, The Faith & Politics Institute, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we come before You this morning conscious that 230 years ago next Tuesday, the Founders of our Nation declared certain truths to be self-evident: that You created us all equal and endowed us with the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. For the clarity of their insight, we are profoundly grateful. For the myriad of ways even they found to disregard those truths, and the ways we continue to, we seek Your pardon.

Thomas Jefferson wrote, "Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just." We, too, should tremble; sometimes we do. Yet we trust in Your grace and mercy to save us from both our adversaries and ourselves.

Guide us, we pray, to understand as Reinhold Niebuhr that nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore, we must be saved by hope. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore, we must be saved by faith. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as it is from our standpoint. Therefore, we must be saved by the final form of love, which is forgiveness.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4912. An act to amend section 242 of the National Housing Act to extend the exemption for critical access hospitals under the FHA program for mortgage insurance for hospitals.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 5122. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2766. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2767. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2768. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military construction, and for other purposes.

S. 2769. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for defense activities of

the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 5122) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. WARNER, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. TALENT, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BYRD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. NELSON (FL), Mr. NELSON (NE), Mr. DAYTON, Mr. BAYH and Mrs. CLINTON, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

WELCOMING REVEREND W. DOUGLAS TANNER, JR.

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, our guest chaplain for the morning is the Reverend Doug Tanner. Doug Tanner is a Methodist minister, native of the great State of North Carolina, a man of great faith, a man of dedication, a man of commitment.

Doug Tanner was inspired by God Almighty to do what I call get in the way. Somehow and some way he was touched, not just by the spirit of history, but by the spirit of the Almighty to find a way to bring Members together, both Democrats and Republicans, both Members of the House and Members of the Senate. Doug was inspired to become the founding father of

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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